

We Claim:

1. An inlet suction valve used with a pumper fire trucks, comprising:
 - a valve housing having a male body portion defining a first cavity and a female body portion defining a second cavity, the body portions being joined and the cavities forming a chamber;
 - a first coupling on the male body portion for coupling with a source of water and a second coupling on the female body member for coupling with a pumper booster tank on the fire truck;
 - a valve element in the first cavity, the valve element being seated against a valve seat adjacent to the first coupling;
 - a valve support with an axial hole therethrough, the valve support being disposed between the first and second cavities of the male and female bodies, the valve support having openings therethrough allowing water to flow freely from the first cavity to the second cavity;
 - a valve stem connected to the valve element and extending back through the first cavity and the axial hole in the valve support to the second cavity;
 - a cam block with a slot extending therein laterally with respect to the axis of the valve stem;
 - a valve operating shaft extending from outside the housing to the cam block, the valve operating shaft having a crank arm extending laterally therefrom with a projection thereon spaced from the axis of the valve operating shaft, the projection being received into the slot in the cam body, and

a drain valve through the female valve body and into the second cavity to drain water away from the cam block to avoid frozen water from clogging the slot in the cam block and preventing operation of the valve.

2. The inlet suction valve of claim 1 wherein an operating handle projects from the operating shaft outside of the valve housing.

3. The inlet suction valve of claim 2 wherein the operating handle is a lever.

4. The inlet suction valve of claim 3 wherein a lateral hole is formed through a portion of the support and receives the operating shaft therethrough.

5. The inlet suction valve of claim 4 wherein the inlet suction valve is made of metal.

6. The inlet valve of claim 5 wherein lubricant is disposed around the valve stem and operating shaft.

7. The inlet suction valve of claim 6 wherein a valve vent outlet is disposed on the male body portion and is connected by a bore through the male body portion to the first coupling at a location in front of the valve element, the valve vent outlet being located at the bottom of the male body portion directly adjacent to the water drain on the female body portion.

8. The inlet suction valve of claim 1 wherein a valve vent outlet is disposed on the male body portion and is connected by a bore through the male body portion to the first coupling at a location in front of the valve element, the valve vent outlet being located at the bottom of the male body portion directly adjacent to the water drain on the female body portion.

9. An inlet suction valve used with a pumper fire trucks, comprising:

a metal valve housing having a male body portion defining a first cavity and a female body portion defining a second cavity, the body portions being joined and the cavities forming a chamber;

a first coupling on the male body portion for coupling with a source of water and a second coupling on the female body member for coupling with a pumper booster tank on the fire truck;

a conical valve element in the first cavity, the conical valve element being seated against a valve seat adjacent to the first coupling;

a metal valve support with an axial hole therethrough, the valve support being disposed between the first and second cavities of the male and female bodies, the valve support having openings therethrough allowing water to flow freely from the first cavity to the second cavity;

a metal valve stem connected to the valve conical element and extending back through the first cavity and the axial hole in the valve support to the second cavity;

a cam block with a slot extending therein laterally with respect to the axis of the valve stem;

a metal valve operating shaft extending from outside the housing to the cam block, the valve operating shaft having a crank arm extending laterally therefrom with a projection thereon spaced from the axis of the valve operating shaft, the projection being received into the slot in the cam body;

a metal operating handle on the metal operating shaft and being positioned outside of the valve housing;

a vent outlet disposed on the male body portion and connected by a bore through the male body portion to the first coupling at a location in front of the valve element, and

a drain valve through the female valve body and into the second cavity to drain water away from the cam block to avoid frozen water from clogging the slot in the cam block and preventing operation of the valve, the drain valve being directly adjacent to vent outlet disposed on the male body portion.

10. The inlet suction valve of claim 2 wherein the operating handle is a metal lever.